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The **United**

States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)

is keeping India on its watch list.

The report, released April 28, also includes annually a watch list of countries the commission considers to require close monitoring because of violations committed or tolerated by their governments. This year's list was the same as last year's except for the movement of Egypt onto the "countries of particular concern" list. Others on the watch list include Afghanistan, Belarus, Cuba, Indonesia, Laos, Russia, Somalia, Tajikistan, Turkey and Venezuela.

While the inclusion is not new, the reasons for the inclusion are different. Dave Stravers, President of Grand Rapids, Michigan-based Mission India, says, "The list also specifically points out that when violations of people's religious freedom occur, India's legal system is unwilling or unable to redress grievances."